4th August 1965]

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : As this question itself pertains only to that fact, have the Government any proposal to extend these rules?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have already answered 'No'.

Attenders in Aided Secondary Schools

* 43 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to permit Attenders of over 20 years of age with E.S.L.C qualification, in Aided Secondary Schools, to appear as private candidates for the S.S.L.C. examination?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : No.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it a fact that girls over twenty years of age are now permitted to appear as private candidates if they have already completed their E.S.L.C.?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Yes, Sir, To enable the unfortunate women like widows, divorced wives and deserted wives to earn a living by honourable means, Government have permitted women candidates who have attained 18 years of age and have passed E.S.L.C. or III Form or Eighth Standard to appear privately for the S.S.L.C. Examination.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the Government aware that many of these Attenders are qualified even over III Form, and unless they are allowed to appear privately for the S.S.L.C. Examination, they have no chances of bettering their prospects?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : But these Attenders do not deserve the sympathy which the women do.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Should not the Government at least now extend these benefits to men also because we have equality of opportunity as among sexes?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : There is no such proposal.

Teachers in Non-Government Colleges

* 44 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which the scheme of pension for Teachers in Non-Government Colleges took effect; and

(*b*) the rate of pension allowed?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) 1—4—1962.

(*b*) Pension is calculated at 1/4th of the average pay for the last three years subject to certain ceilings fixed for the College Professors including the Principals.